



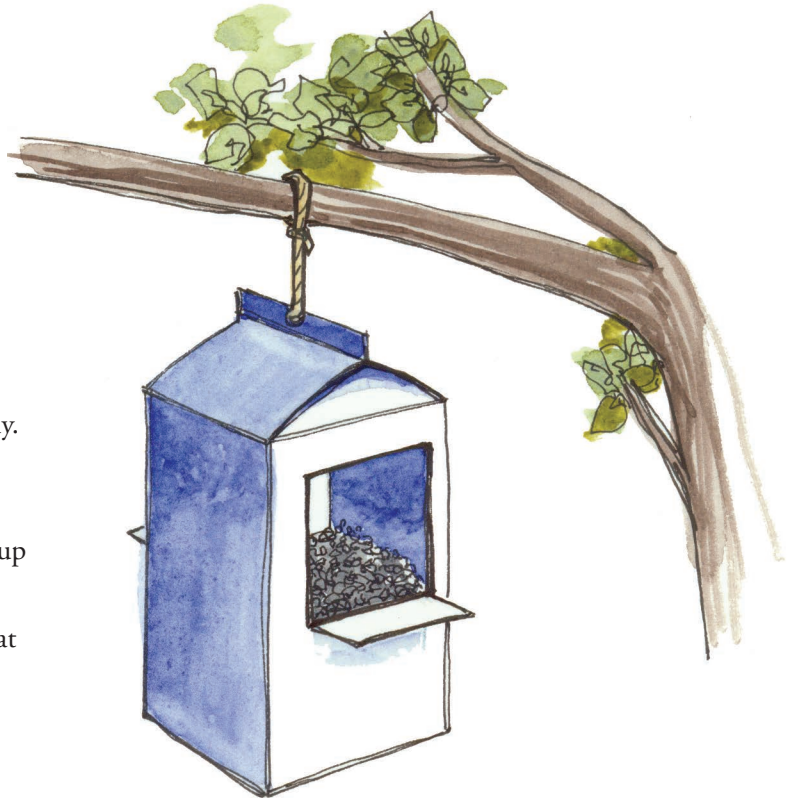
How to Make a Bird Feeder

Build a simple bird feeder and recycle a paper milk carton at the same time. All you need is:

- A paper milk carton (any size)
- Some twine (jute or sisal is best because it's biodegradable)
- Scissors

Just follow these easy steps:

1. Wash out the milk carton and let it dry thoroughly.
2. Cut two windows on opposite sides of the carton. Make them large, but don't cut all the way to the bottom. You'll be filling the carton with birdseed up to the level of the bottom of the windows.
3. Make a little ledge where birds can sit as they eat at the feeder. On the bottom of each "window," cut down about ½-inch on each side. Then fold the bottom edge down.
4. If you want to decorate your carton, use crayons. Ink from pens or markers can be toxic. Also avoid tape and glue, which can stick to the birds.
5. Poke a hole through the top of the carton, pull the string through it, and tie a knot at the top.
6. Add birdseed. You can use a basic commercial wild birdseed mix, but a far better choice is black oil sunflower seed. If you want to attract a particular kind of bird that is native to your area, find out what that bird likes and use it in your feeder.
7. Find a good place to hang your bird feeder:
 - a. Find a place that's not too windy and has trees or bushes nearby.



- b. Place the feeder well off the ground, but where you can reach it to refill it.
- c. Fill the feeder only with as much food as the birds eat in 2-3 days.
- d. Keep the area under the feeder clean by raking up seed that falls on the ground.
- e. Provide water near the feeder. A clay saucer works well. Place it on the ground or on a stump. Refill it regularly, especially if the water gets dirty. Keep the saucer clean.